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2016,2020,2021

HHSS celebrates Pride Month

Staff and students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School participated in a colour run on Friday, June 9 to finish off their Pride Week celebrations. Nichole Fielder, Sarah Mee, and Sadie Evans-Fockler stop for a photo. See more on page 5. /Submitted by Christine Carr



Public Health urges air quality mindfulness

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The air quality index has taken a new prominence in our daily lives.

For Haliburton County and its environs, the index isn't only to gauge smog

moving up from The Big Smoke. Lately, and in what's said to likely become a seasonal common practice, the index has weighed the effects of actual smoke in the air.

Certainly, there are days you don't need an air quality index. The smell of smoke, the haze in the air that can be

tasted, and the eerie sepia cast in the sky attests to something untoward being drawn into one's lungs.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, medical officer of health and CEO at the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, said last week the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks air

quality health index uses data from 39 air monitoring stations.

Those stations collect real-time air pollution data and report on key pollutants that are indicators of overall outdoor air quality.

"The current smoke plumes from see SMOKE page 2



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HHHS announces acting president and CEO

Commencing June 12, Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) President and CEO Carolyn Plummer will be on a medical leave of absence.

David O'Brien, HHHS Board Chair, said, "the HHHS Board of Directors would like to thank CEO Plummer for her hard work and dedication, particularly during the past few months, and we recognize the importance of looking after her health. We wish her all the best as she addresses her medical issues."

In order to ensure ongoing leadership at HHHS during this time, the Board of Directors has appointed Veronica Nelson as Acting President and CEO, as of June 12. She will be responsible for all aspects of the role during CEO Plummer's absence, and will work closely with the Board of Directors and HHHS leadership team on the continued delivery of all services at HHHS.

Ms. Nelson has been temporarily seconded to HHHS from her role as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Ross Memorial Hospital (RMH). Ms. Nelson previously worked at HHHS as a Medical Radiation Technologist earlier in her career. She has more than 30 years of healthcare experience, and has been an executive leader at RMH since 2015, including serving as Interim President and CEO from March 2019 to April 2020. She began her career as a Medical Radiation Technologist, and later obtained her Masters of Medical Radiation Science and Masters Certificate in Healthcare Management. Her strengths include leadership, community collabora-

tion and project management. She is currently co-leading the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team (OHT). She has been overseeing the Diagnostic Imaging and Laboratory Departments at both HHHS and RMH and will continue to do so moving forward.

HHHS and RMH have had an ongoing partnership for several years, sharing many services including:

- Epic Clinical Information System
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Information and Communications Technology
- Laboratory
- Medical Device Reprocessing
- Pharmacy

"HHHS and RMH are both organizations that mean a great deal to me," said Ms. Nelson. "I am excited to bring my skillset and experience to working with the HHHS Board of Directors and team members throughout the organization. I know how incredibly important HHHS and its services are to patients, residents, clients, and the community."

Mr. O'Brien went on to say, "We look forward to working with Ms. Nelson and have the utmost confidence in her ability to take on the significant responsibilities associated with this position."

*Submitted by
Haliburton Highlands Health Services*

Smoke can be harmful to everyone, says Bocking

from page 1

forest fires throughout Ontario and Quebec are leading to worsening air quality, moving the air quality health index to high risk," Bocking said. "For those who may be at risk due to other health reasons we are advising you to please prioritize your health by reducing your exposure."

Health Canada advises that people who work outdoors, the pregnant, elderly, and those people with other pre-existing health conditions should be mindful of air quality.

High levels of air pollution have blanketed swaths of North America from out-of-control forest fires in northern Ontario and Quebec. Fires are also burning in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, and the Northwest Territories.

So far, as many as 26,250 people have been evacuated from their homes that are in the paths of about 413 wild-

fires across the country.

Air quality and visibility due to wildfire smoke can fluctuate over short distances and can vary considerably from hour to hour.

Many Ontario school boards have moved children's outdoor activities indoors. Along the eastern seaboard of the United States, smoke from Ontario and Quebec has cancelled Major League Baseball games. Flights have been grounded at such large airports as New York City's LaGuardia Airport.

Bocking said in a press release that wildfire smoke can be harmful to everyone's health, even at low concentrations.

Stop outdoor activities and contact your health care provider if you or someone in your care experiences shortness of breath, wheezing (including asthma attacks), severe cough, dizziness or chest pains. Stay inside if you are feeling unwell and experiencing symptoms.

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Housing group launches community bond campaign

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Places for People aims to create affordable housing in Haliburton County while giving people a chance to make some coin off it.

Places for People (P4P) is offering individuals and organizations the opportunity to invest in affordable and attainable housing in Haliburton by purchasing a P4P Bond, a type of investment known as a community bond.

Community bonds are an innovative finance tool used by non-profits and charities that provide capital for important projects plus returns to investors.

There are three ways people can invest in P4P's efforts to put roofs over people's heads.

Series A is a three-year bond investment option that will earn three per cent interest. It's a minimum \$1,000 bond, and the interest is paid annually.

Series B is over five years and earns four per cent interest on a minimum \$5,000 bond. Again, the interest is paid annually.

With the Series C option, a minimum \$10,000 bond is a seven-year commitment that will earn five per cent interest. The interest and the principal are annually amortized.

P4P will use the bonds to refinance current projects and consolidate its financial picture. The organization can then undertake more large, developments that are environmentally sustainable.

The campaign goal is to raise \$850,000 and be able to pay off existing loans and mortgage.

The P4P mandate is to create and manage secure, quality housing for low- and

moderate-income tenants in Haliburton County, and to create the conditions under which they can thrive.

They have three duplexes and one single-family home in its portfolio of subsidized housing. There's also a five-plex of market housing. That means they've housed 12 households in the county's four townships.

In 2018, P4P undertook a major reconsideration of its model, from buying existing properties, renovating and renting, to doing multi-unit new-builds with small households in mind, said Fay Martin, vice-president of the board of directors. Martin is also chairperson of the property development and the tenant relations committees.

These multi-unit properties would be pricier than our old funding model could support.

"All our existing portfolio is funded by community investment," Martin said. "Individuals hold mortgages or promissory notes. But it was unlikely that one individual could pony up the amount of cash that a 12-unit property would entail. So we needed to look at other methodologies."

If the bond campaign is as successful as anticipated, Martin said it will be an arrow in the P4P quiver. But it won't be an annual effort as each bond sale needs to be specific to a project or purpose because people need to know what they're investing in.

"So, no, it won't likely be an annual offering," said Max Ward, the group's treasurer. "But do look forward to future offerings."

Martin said the community has always come through with support, whether it's been fundraisers, other donations, or simply cheering the group on toward their

goal.

"Some of our proposed projects have met with NIMBYism, but we don't take that personally," she said. "We think it is that people don't understand the essential give and take that constitutes health in communities, and especially don't understand the role of housing in community wellbeing as opposed to personal wellbeing."

Martin said Haliburton County is in dire need of affordable housing.

With a recreation-driven economy, she

said the county is a community of quite extreme economic disparity. There's quite a large gulf between the haves and have-nots, and access to housing is a dramatic indicator of that disparity.

"We know that having secure, affordable, and appropriate housing is a foundational determinant of health," she said. "But our market-driven culture has been in denial for decades, with the predictable outcome of this housing crunch. We are reaping what we have sown."



Art unveiled

The Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub unveiled a new mural on Thursday in partnership with N(art)ure Project, a research project out of UofT. Clara Juando-Prats, of the N(art)ure Project (far right), Mary Sisson, manager of the Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub, Zee Weiss, Brayden Grooms and Kyle Maes pose for a photo after the mural unveiling. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo



HHHS Brings Together Emergency Services at Haliburton Site

Emergency services are no longer available at the HHHS Minden site.

This change came into effect on June 1, 2023, as a result of severe and on-going staffing shortages.

If you are in need of serious medical attention, always CALL 911.

Anyone needing emergency care can access services at the Haliburton site (7199 Gelert Road, Haliburton).

Visit www.hhhs.ca or call 705-457-1392 for more information.



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Making Haliburton history

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School competitor Evan Backus made the podium at OFSAA for track and field in Ottawa with his second-place finish in the province. Evan won the silver in the 300m hurdles on Saturday, June 10. Evan started the day off strong with winning his qualifying heat to make the final. Evan was seeded third with his heat time and ran a personal best with a time of 42.01 to place second. Evan also finished 12th in the 100m sprint hurdles on Friday. The top 24 athletes from the six different regions in the province compete at OFSAA. It has been many years since a Haliburton athlete has made the podium in track and field. OFSAA is dubbed the third most competitive high school track meet in North America. /Submitted by Karen Gervais

Sports Hall of Fame calling for nominations

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

Applications are now open for 2024 for nominations in three different classes, athletes, teams, or builders, to the Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame.

The HHSHoF was originated by the Haliburton County Community Co-operative Inc., a non-profit organization first formed in 1998 that is now carrying out 19 different initiatives, each with its own management team. The HHSHoF is one of those initiatives.

An induction ceremony to the Sports Hall of Fame takes place every two years. One year was lost due to COVID-19 and so the next one will be in 2024. The first ceremony on June 18 attracted approximately 400 friends, family, and community members to the A.J.Rue Community Centre.

There are criteria that must be met to be eligible for induction, and nominations must be made using a nomination package provided by the HHSHoF on their website hhshoff.ca.

An athlete connected with any sport, who has attained significant recognition and/or fame in or for the Haliburton Highlands, over a period of five years or more, is eligible. Nominees must have been a resident of Haliburton County for a minimum of five years before or during their sporting accomplishments.

An athlete must have been retired from active participation in the sport(s) for which they are nominated for a period of at least three years, or if still active, must have attained the age of 40.

Teams are eligible at any time, with no waiting period.

Builders are also eligible at any time, with no waiting period even though the nominee may still be active in the role(s) for which they are nominated.

"Members of the board as well as some external folks will review the nominations and make the final decisions," says Roger Trull, chair of the HHSHoF.

Past inductees in 2021 include A.J. LaRue, as hockey builder, Anna Tomlinson as track and field athlete, Bernie Nicholls, hockey athlete, Cody Hodgson, hockey athlete, Donald Beverly "Joe" Iles, hockey athlete,

Glen Dart, hockey athlete, Jake Walker, curling athlete, Lenny Salvatori, hockey builder, Lesley Tashlin, track and field athlete, Linda Brandon, special Olympics builder, Marla MacNaull, cross-country running, hockey, track and field athlete, Michael Bradley, football athlete, Ron Stackhouse, hockey athlete and Taly Williams, football athlete.

"We started out with a large group in 2021 to get things going. A total of 17 were inducted. For 2024, we expect there will be less than 10 inductees," explains Trull. The induction ceremony will take place in June 2024, with a final date still to be determined.

Team inductees in 2021 included the Minden Monarchs hockey team, 1956-1957, the Haliburton Junior "D" Huskies hockey team, 1970-1971 and the Haliburton Huskies hockey team, 1934.

"We thought it was important to put some history in there, to recognize teams from the past," explains Trull.

The nomination package provides all the details for making a solid nomination. Supporting documentation such as newspaper articles, citations and certificates that describe the nominee's achievements should be included. Statistical data about records set, levels of competition and championships won, also make for a more compelling nomination. Photographs are also required. Character letters supporting the nomination can come from teammates, fellow competitors, coaches, managers, and fans should also be included. Online links and video are also helpful.

The Municipality of Dysart et al provides space on the second floor of the A.J. LaRue Community Centre in Haliburton for the HHSHoF. Founding sponsors include Curry GMC and Minden Subaru. In-kind donors are Rodco Enterprises, Emmerson Lumber and Churko Electric.

"The sponsors jumped on board initially not knowing what would happen. Dysart et al has been a tremendous supporter of ours, and so has the arena staff. We are appreciative of all this support," says Trull.

In addition, individuals, families, and other businesses from across Haliburton County have contributed to making the Sports Hall of Fame possible.

Information on donating is available on the website. Nominations close at the end of October.

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The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame is currently accepting nominations for our induction ceremony to be held June 15, 2024.

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Deadline for submissions: October 30, 2023

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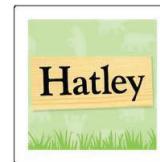
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Colourful banners were hung outside of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School for their Pride Week celebrations. /Submitted by Christine Carr

Pride Week at HHSS

Pride Week had a mix of different activities and events encouraging inclusion and diversity within Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Monday: Minden Pride joined staff and students early in the morning to decorate the school with Pride-themed decorations and posters. At lunch Sean and Allan from Minden Pride had a Q and A with interested students, and there was rock-decorating, where students painted rocks with inclusive messages promoting kindness that they then placed around the school.

Tuesday: We had inclusion-themed assemblies for all grades hosted by Youth-Speak promoting kindness and educating around topics of diversity and inclusion.

Wednesday: We had a bake sale (that continued Thursday) with food created by the Foods Class. Students could also earn a free cookie by completing an informative scavenger hunt around the school finding information about influential 2SLGBTQIA+ figures.

Thursday: The bake sale continued at

lunch. There was also "Chalk the Walk" where students drew kindness messages outside the school in sidewalk chalk. Minden Pride also facilitated a "Lunch and Learn" with staff to answer questions and educate them.

Friday: Friday culminated with the colour run! Over a hundred students bought in to participate in the colour run third period, then fourth period the whole school was invited to the event. We had booths from Minden Pride, the Haliburton County Public Library, and artist Brandon Jarvis. We also had giant inflatables, such as an inflatable obstacle course. The Leadership Physical Education class arranged different outdoor games to be played.

All week teachers also completed mini lessons around the ideas of teaching kindness and inclusion in their classes. The week went great, and it was awesome to see the kindness and positivity around the school!

Submitted by Christine Carr



A student draws on the HHSS parking lot with chalk. /Submitted by Christine Carr

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Abi Lewis and Logan Beers stop for a photo during the colour run. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff



Chair of Minden Pride Allan Guinan, left, and a Hal High student smile at the Minden Pride booth. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff

points of view



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

A country on fire

LIVING IN Ontario, I always thought we were luckier than most when it comes to natural disasters.

We're far away from major fault lines, so we don't get severe earthquakes, we're far from the coast of an ocean, so we don't get tsunamis or hurricanes, and we rarely see tornadoes touch down in the Highlands.

My safety bubble was popped last week.

When I thought about the lack of natural disasters in Ontario in the past, I forgot to consider what the province consists of.

Trees.

This naturally combustible material fills nearly every corner of the province. They're an especially prominent feature of the Haliburton Highlands.

For the past two weeks, I was lucky enough to have some time off to visit family on Vancouver Island.

Wildfires out west seem to be a given; they're expected. We hear about them all the time - particularly the ones in Alberta this spring.

We even had some hazy days in Ontario a few weeks ago due to the smoke pluming from the Rocky Mountains.

I was forecasting lots of fires to start while I was out there. They've had an unusually dry spring.

On an island of rainforest, it didn't rain a single time while I was there for 14 days.

Although a few small ones started on Vancouver Island last week, they were modest compared to what was happening back at home.

It was terrifying to check the weather for Haliburton to find air quality warnings and photos and videos of dense, dark smoke and billowing blazes.

I can only imagine how horrifying it was to be here, in the thick of it. Especially for those with respiratory problems.



vivian
collings

Editorial

has a total fire ban in effect. "The ban includes campfires, bonfires, fireworks, outdoor candles and lanterns, Tiki torches, propane fire pits, chimineas, and the burning of leaves and brush."

All burn permits are suspended.

While I was in British Columbia, there was a fire south of the town I was staying in that was presumably human-caused.

Luckily, the fire didn't cross Highway 19, the only lifeline for those living on Northern Vancouver Island.

It could've very easily turned into a crisis if the highway was impassable.

Luckily, Monday's rain offered some relief here, again, we are not immune to potential emergency situations like the ones happening out west.

Stay diligent.

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A raccoon stands among trilliums. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

'Tis the season

IT WAS treated as a joke at the time. Jane was quite young and yet for some reason, decades later, she still recalled the day. She was playing on the sidewalk outside her house. For some reason, long lost in time, her father was there as well. Maybe cutting the grass with the old push lawn mower. It was a Saturday so that made sense. Suddenly a chorus of honking horns went by on the next street up. Before Jane could ask what was happening, her father commented, "Another poor sucker."

Back then, when people married and drove off in their vehicle, friends and family had often tied tin cans to the vehicle's rear bumper, and then as it drove away and the cans rattled, the driver honked his horn to broadcast to the world he and his new wife's happy news. They were officially married.

Jane didn't think people did that anymore. At least she hadn't heard the Saturday honking for a long while. Over time, the "poor sucker" comment was repeated often by her father. And when he did, her mother would always say, "Oh Dave" with a touch of something in her voice the young Jane didn't understand. Was it humour? Maybe irony? Even as an adult she never quite knew. But she had the feeling her mother was not completely pleased or in agreement with her father's words.

Looking back with the insight of adulthood Jane realized over time that her parents' marriage had not been a particularly happy one. No doubt it had started out well enough. She had photographs upstairs in an old chocolate box that showed the pair with dark hair, smooth faces and dressed to the nines. They were signing something and looked pretty happy. And excited. A new life together with all sorts of hopes, dreams and aspirations. So what happened? Of course, Jane would never completely know. Though she had her suspicions.

The fifties were not always kind to women who wanted more from life than a house to clean, babies to tend and a husband who made the rules.

Down



sharon
lynch

Our road

Not to mention the men who were expected to "bring home the bacon," pay for everything and be overjoyed every time a new mouth to feed came on the scene. Was that why the liquor cabinet held such a prominent place in the den? Was that why her father frequently stayed late at the office or had to work on a Saturday?

Jane wondered how life might have been for them had they been married in today's world. Both would have had to work to put food on the table, and even then it was questionable whether or not they would have been able to afford a house in the city. So there would have been endless commuting from the suburbs and exhaustion all 'round. Jane probably wouldn't have had as many siblings. Would their relationship have been any different, she asked herself. How much did the social expectations of the times effect their relationship and how much did their own personalities play a part?

Of course Jane would never know. She only wished they had been happier whether together or not. While in current times there appeared to be more options for couples and families, the struggles were still there but just in different forms.

Fortunes continued to be spent on elaborate wedding celebrations. Exotic locales, dazzling parties and frightening debt seemed to increasingly be the norm. Yet statistics indicate well over half of these marriages will end in divorce. The happy faces posted on social media show no indication of the acrimony and disenchantment that sadly might follow.

Putting away the old chocolate box and its contents, Jane wondered if her parents' lives together would have been different had they married in a different era. How much were the times and how much were their personalities and history? Jane knew a successful marriage didn't just happen once the vows were exchanged. Despite the parties, the outfits and the gifts, it still came down to commitment, compromise and acceptance. And luck.

points of view

Is AI here? You're darn tooting!

THE OTHER day while watching TV, I listened as a very smart man repeated the claim that the artificial intelligence being incorporated into our machines might mean the end of humanity. And, for the first time ever, I believed it.

I wouldn't have, if not for the malevolent bit of intelligence displayed by our new food waste disposal unit last week.

I was working downstairs in my office and Jenn was working upstairs in hers. Our new food waste disposal unit was processing food waste in the kitchen, halfway between us. And that's when it first demonstrated that it was a sentient being.

What it did was frankly ingenious and ultimately human.

That's right. It made fart noises. Several times actually. They were loud and drawn out too and occurred every minute or so.

I know. Some of you are probably thinking, "If that's ingenious, I am Einstein!"

Well, hear me out.

It never once took credit.

No, instead, it left Jenn thinking that I was the one responsible. And it left me wondering if we were going to have to visit the hospital to find out what was wrong with Jenn.

Of course, neither of us wanted to broach the subject at first. Me because I knew that hot air rises and therefore the safest place in the house was in the basement.

And Jenn, because, well, she thought it was just another day in paradise.

But after a while, I started to worry. I mean, I happen to be a bit of an expert on the subject – and judging from the decibel level and the duration, I naturally assumed that this could lead to disaster if the cat so much as rubbed up against a couch and caused a spark of static electricity.

So I ventured upstairs carrying an improvised hand-operated fan and called out, "Jenn, are....are... you OK? Want me to call an ambulance?"

Jenn, for her part, approached me cautiously until I was downwind and 10-feet distant, and then said, "I'm fine, and there's no way you can blame the dog this time."

What followed was a brief argument in which we both claimed innocence and thought the other person was a flatulent liar – which, trust me, is not something you should ever say out loud.

But just as both of us were starting to develop serious trust issues, the food waste disposal unit, let another one rip.

"It lives!" I yelled.

And then another.

For some reason, Jenn was relieved that the sound wasn't coming from me. I, on the other hand, immediately began to make efforts to communicate with it.

"We come in peace," I said, offering it an orange peel. If the whole situation wasn't embarrassing enough, I then had to take time out of our day to Google, "Why does my food waste disposal unit make fart noises?"

Of course, my Google AI search engine, acted as if it did not know what I was talking about.

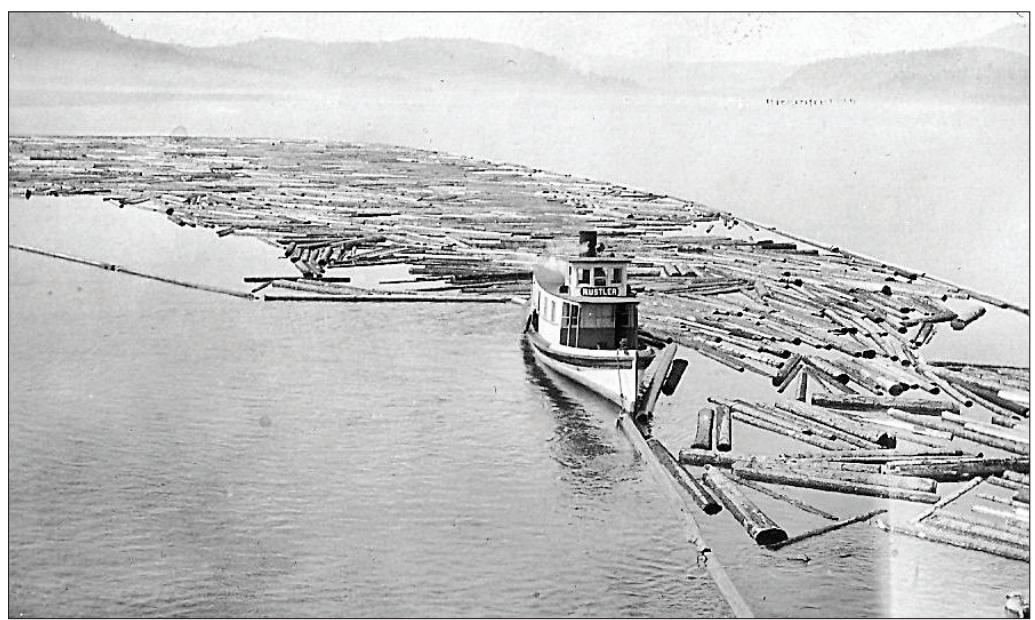
And when Jenn asked the same question to her friend in the park later that night, her friend just looked at me, then looked at Jenn and replied, "I don't know but mine does that too."

No matter. You'd have a hard time convincing me that our food waste disposal unit isn't a sentient being. Why else would Google AI try to throw me off the scent?



Loon Tales

steve
galea



pic of the past

The steam boat "Rustler" with a log boom on Boshkung Lake (then called Boskung). Pine logs entered Boshkung in log drives from Kushog Lake via Buck Slides and Halls Lake via Buttermilk Falls, and continued through Twelve Mile Lake to the Trent waterway with the final destination being saw mills in Trenton, Ontario. Log drives were dangerous and two men killed in drives are buried in unmarked graves under the fence at Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery. The last log drive through Boshkung and Twelve Mile Lakes took place in 1929. /FILE

Aging Together as Community (ATAC)

It's Time to Celebrate Our Efforts and Successes!

Thursday, June 22 at the Haliburton United Church, 5:30 to 8 p.m. (Available on Zoom)

A light supper will be provided.

Please join us as we:

- Review our Highlights of 2022-23
- Look at our Communications Plan
- Check out our new information package- Helpful Resources for Seniors in Haliburton

County.

- Decide together our ATAC 'next steps' and how you can help.

Please invite your friends and family to come and share their stories and join in this exciting grass roots movement.

For more information contact Bonnie at 705-457-6579.

Submitted

U-Links Centre for Community based research

Community Members of Haliburton County – U-Links, a leading organization facilitating community-based research collaborations, is inviting community groups in Haliburton County to submit their research project proposals for the upcoming academic year. This call aims to foster partnerships between community organizations and student researchers from Trent University and Fleming College to address important issues impacting the social, cultural, environmental, and economic aspects of the county.

Since 1999, U-Links has been instrumental in connecting community organizations with talented student researchers, resulting in numerous successful research projects. By participating in this initiative, organizations gain access to valuable research insights that can inform decision-making processes, increase capacity and contribute to the betterment of Haliburton County.

No research background? No problem! U-Links staff are here to guide you through the process. All you need is an idea or identified problem within Haliburton County, and our team will assist you in developing a comprehensive project proposal and identifying the appropriate research questions. Whether your project relates to community development, health sciences, forensics, environmental sciences, or any other field, our dedicated professionals will provide the necessary support.

To give you an idea of the diverse projects we facilitate, here are a few examples of ongoing community-based research projects:

#5510 - Assessing Haliburton for Agriculture

and Vendor Needs

#5111 - Evaluation Assessment for Abbey Retreat Centre Programs
#6018 - Evaluation of Haliburton County Lake Associations on Water Quality Testing Data & Protocols.

In addition to research projects, U-Links also offers opportunities for community-service learning (CSL). This unique form of experiential education allows students and community members to collaborate on specific activities or events with tangible outcomes. One such example is the annual

Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children's Water Festival, where Environmental Science students from Trent University and community members work together to organize and facilitate educational activity stations.

The deadline for submitting project ideas or topics is July 14. We encourage all interested community members and organizations to reach out to U-Links by this date to discuss their project proposals. Join U-Links in making a difference in Haliburton County through community-based research.

Together, we can create positive change and contribute to the sustainable growth of our community.

For more information and to see examples of our previous and available research projects please visit www.ulinks.ca or contact our Program Coordinator, Frank Figuli at coordinator@ulinks.ca or phone our office at 705-286-2411.

Submitted

Millpond Restaurant makeover well underway

CHRIS DROST

Staff Reporter

Things are moving ahead quickly with ACM Design Inc.'s makeover of the Millpond Restaurant in Carnarvon.

"We are in the construction phase. Cabinets are going in. Painting is taking place, the new electrical is being installed and the templates done for the new countertops," says Sophie Creelman, marketing coordinator at ACM.

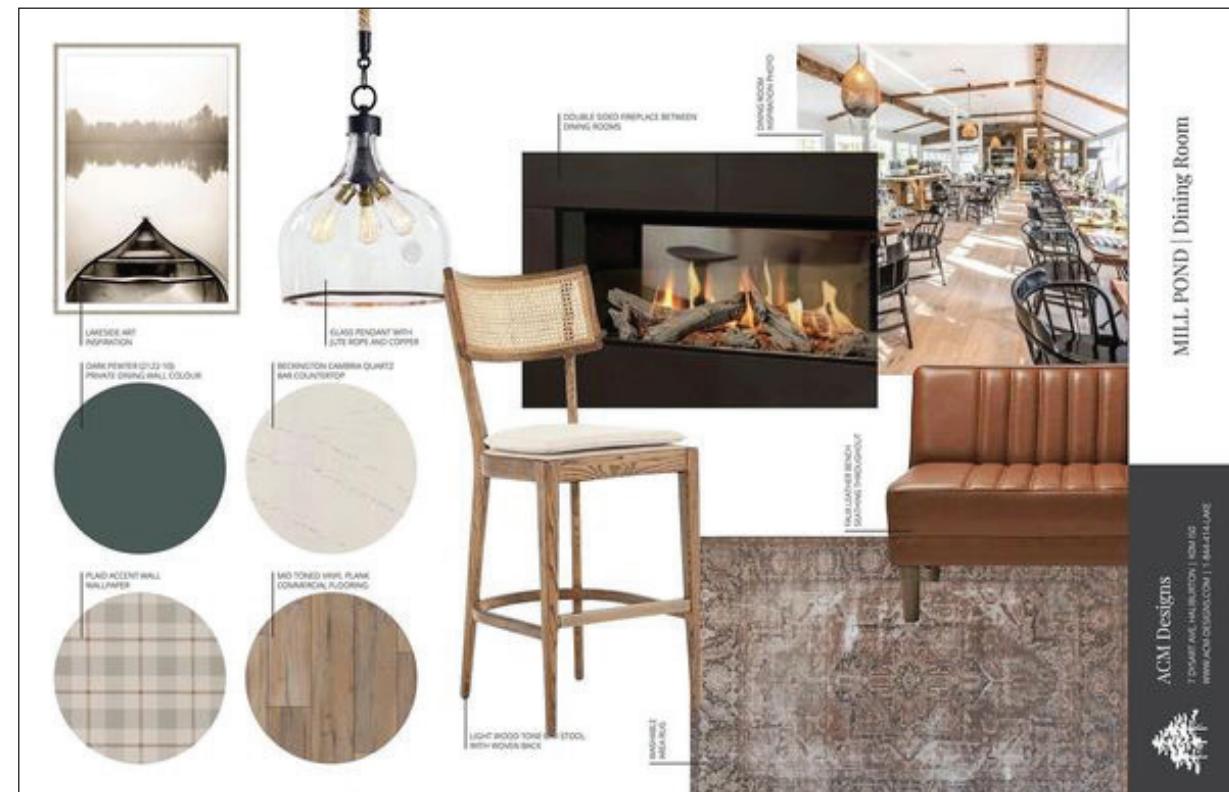
This, Hali's Restaurant Makeover, is the second makeover project by ACM Designs, the first one being the Bonnie View Inn on Kashagawigamog Lake, which previously won Haliburton's Big Lobby Makeover in 2020. Earlier this year, more than 9,000 people cast votes in the contest.

"We are a socially responsibility company giving back to the community," explains Creelman when asked about the reasoning behind these makeover projects.

This time, the project involves a complete redesign of the dining space. A new colour palette will further enhance the space. The design renderings showcase the new design, utilizing elements from the storyboard that will be found throughout the restaurant.

"It has been about 30 years since this space has been updated," adds Creelman.

The designers have crafted a new floor plan and new furniture and lighting fixtures will be installed in the dining room. The plans have been developed in collaboration with Millpond owner, Brad Archer, to ensure the space will function as it should. The renovation is for the



The design board for the Millpond Restaurant makeover shows the colour scheme as well as the planned lighting, furniture, and flooring elements. A double-sided fireplace will be located between the two dining areas. /Photo courtesy of ACM Designs Inc.

dining room only.

While the changes for the restaurant will give it the fresh new look it deserves, according to the ACM's social media, the designers have been cognizant of preserving the local ambience and charm the restaurant has always had. This means that elements of rustic wood tones, a bit of plaid, and landscape photography are expected to be included somewhere in the new design.

The design storyboard shows plans for

a double-sided fireplace between dining rooms, quartz countertop, mid-toned vinyl plank flooring, a dark pewter paint colour for the dining room walls with a plaid accent wall, and light wood-toned bar stools.

Partners in the project include Kegel Heating and Cooling, Churko Electric, Emmerson Lumber Limited, Cordell Carpet, Yours Outdoors, and Cambria.

"There is lots of talk about the makeover, lots of excitement," says Creelman.

A review of the ACM Facebook page confirms it. There appears to be a great deal of excitement about seeing the finished product.

"We have been working a lot of overtime but plan to have the project completed by the end of June," says Creelman.

In the interim, Millpond Restaurant has re-opened for take-out or limited outdoor seating.

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10

School's Cool with SIRCH

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

It may seem like summer is just getting started, but planning for the school year ahead is always important.

That's why SIRCH is once again kicking off their popular "School's Cool" programming for the summer season ahead. "Developed as a school readiness program, School's Cool is designed for kids entering junior kindergarten," shared the coordinator of the program, Brittany Rance.

Starting in 1998, SIRCH has offered the program in schools around the area, focusing on math, language, social, and psychological programs to get kids excited about their first year at school. "It really explores things like routines, instructions, socialization, and just doing things on their own," shared Angelica Ingram, the communications and marketing coordinator for SIRCH.

Due to recent funding cuts, the program has gone from being offered in six schools, to just one this year. This in-person program will be offered at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, and Rance and Ingram noted that if parents are interested in the in-person program, they are encouraged to contact SIRCH directly.

With the limited opportunities for in-person based on the funding cuts, SIRCH has had to think outside the box to find ways to continue offering this valuable program to young families.

This is why they have opted to include online learning, as well as parent-guided sessions of the programs. "We didn't



want to disappoint families where the program was previously offered," said Ingram, "and we were mindful of any transportation restrictions with the in-person only being available at one location, so we decided to offer some other options

as well."

"The instructors are super engaging," shared Rance in regards to the online programming, "we take lots of dance breaks, and really, it's only for an hour and a half a day for five days."

Quinn Clark smiles at his family while singing the ABCs during his School's Cool graduation on Thursday, Aug. 18, 2022. School's Cool is a SIRCH program held at six different schools in the area for pre-kindergarten children to prepare them for their first years at school. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

As for the parent-led program, this session outlines three activities a day, learning videos, and detailed instructions. And while those three activities should be done for four days a week over the span of six weeks, it can be entirely parent-lead. "There are no time parameters for this," said Ingram, "this is a great program for people who don't have high speed internet, or who have very busy summer schedules."

In whatever way the program is taken, SIRCH believes that it is valuable to get all kids prepared and excited for the school year ahead. "It offers the opportunity to create an even playing field for everyone starting school," said Rance.

For more information on the School's Cool program, visit www.sirch.on.ca.

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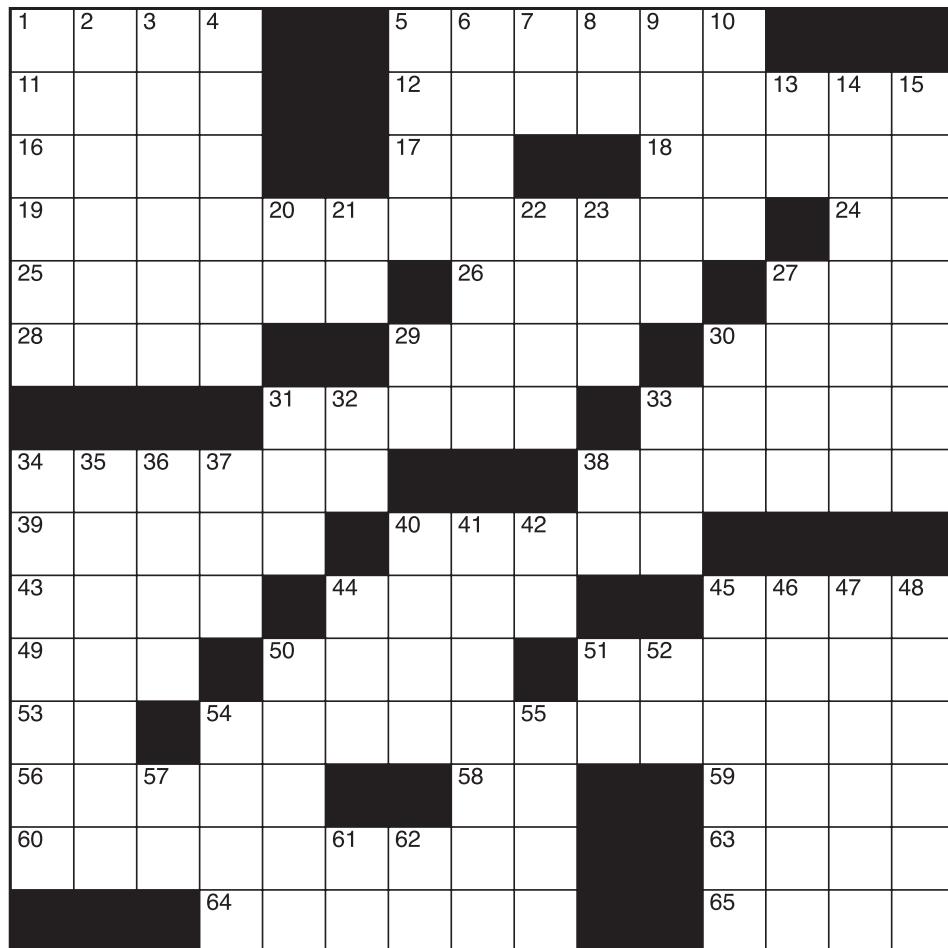
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Database management system
5. Medical procedures
11. Clapton, musician
12. Defender
16. Exert oneself
17. Indicates position
18. Prevents river overflow
19. Atrocities
24. Mister
25. Ends
26. Slope or tilt
27. Taxi
28. The very ends
29. Actor Sean
30. Japanese persimmon
31. Sours
33. Beneficiary
34. Baseball official
38. Muddy, boggy ground
39. Not worldly
40. Actress Lathan
43. Soil
44. -Cola
45. Asleep
49. Angeles
50. Give birth to a child
51. Beach shelter
53. Commercial
54. Taste property
56. Local jurisdictions
58. It cools your home
59. Dismounted from a horse
60. Charge with a crime
63. Close in
64. Spoke
65. Famed garden

CLUES DOWN

1. Draw a scene
2. Its sultan is famous
3. Unlucky accident
4. A way to ski

Answers on page 14



Winners of the Opportunity Looks Like Hard Work award were recognized by SIRCH Community Services on May 31. The award was created to honour high school students who also work in the customer service industry in Haliburton County. The winners were Grade 11 students Evelyn Vanderstarre (third from left) and Marley Mariani (second from right). From left, SIRCH finance manager Stacy McLean, Todd's Independent Grocer owner/operator Steve Todd, Vanderstarre, Mariani, SIRCH board vice-president Marc Beisheim. /Submitted

SIRCH Community Services recognizes hard working youth

ANGELICA INGRAM

Special to the Echo

Marley Mariani and Evelyn Vanderstarre know the meaning of hard work.

Students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, Marley and Evelyn were recently chosen as the recipients of the Opportunity Looks Like Hard Work award, given out by SIRCH Community Services.

The \$600 financial award was created for students in Grades 9, 10 or 11 who demonstrate academic merit and also work part-time in Haliburton County. Winners were scored and chosen by a panel consisting of a SIRCH board member, a staff member and a community business rep.

Both in Grade 11, Marley works at Molly's Bistro in Minden and Evelyn is an employee at Todd's Independent Grocer in Haliburton. The students were presented with their awards by SIRCH on May 31.

The award was created by SIRCH to honour Steve Todd and Stacy McLean, a long time employee of the not-for-profit organization, on their recent marriage.

"I want to thank SIRCH for coming up

with this idea, it was a wedding present for me and Stacy," said Steve.

The couple matched the donation from the SIRCH board of directors, to be able to offer two youth awards.

Owner of Todd's Independent Grocer, Steve spoke to the importance of working hard and learning along the way.

"I want to commend you on your commitment to not only school, but work, which is near and dear to my heart. It is extremely difficult to manage both," said Steve. "Young people like yourself make up a lot of our businesses, not only my business but businesses across Ontario. The only way we are successful is because of the work you do. Whatever job you do, take something positive from it and use it in the future. They will be life skills you will use in whatever you choose to do."

SIRCH board vice-president Marc Beisheim echoed Steve's comments, and applauded the youth for their drive.

"You'll be amazed at how long you remember these life skills," he said.

Both Marley and Evelyn were grateful to be the chosen recipients and thanked SIRCH for the award. They intend to put a large portion of the winnings into savings.



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Fair fun

The Haliburton County Fair was deemed a success by staff members on Saturday, June 10 after hundreds of people took in the sights and sounds of the annual fair in Minden, Ont. Fairgoers were treated to live music, shopping, food and entertainment. The horse-pull drew in the crowds to close off the one-day event. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo



Owen Archer and Memphis Switzer practice their water gun aim on Saturday.

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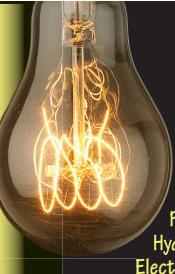
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Vol. 101

No. 39

Wednesday, June 1, 1983

'Voice of the Highlands'

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Back in
the swing

See page 8

New team
kicks off

See page 8

Farewell to
the Browns

See page 13

Dysart tax bill is up by 9.75 per cent for 1983

Despite the fact that the municipal portion of the Dysart tax did not go up at all over last year, an increase in the board of education levy and in the county level have resulted in a tax increase of 9.75 per cent for ratepayers.

Reeve Murray Fearrey told the Echo Monday that the increase means ratepayers will pay \$40 per \$1000 of assessment.

The breakdown of the Dysart tax dollar shows that approximately 62.6 per cent goes toward the education levy, 15.7 per cent to the

county, and 21.7 per cent for the municipality.

The reeve said the county levy increase was due to a change to new apportionment. The switch from last year's "guaranteed mill rate" has caused half the increase in the county portion, he added. Much of the remainder of the 13 mill increase in the county levy was attributed to "committed funding for county road one."

The education levy went up by 30.8 mills, he said.

The reeve said that "generally

speaking, Dysart council was surprised" by the 11.6 per cent increase towards the education levy... especially when "we are being asked to hold our increases to six and five."

The stand-pat municipal budget included no increase for councillors and committee members, and assumed a lower bank rate in 1983 than last year, he said.

As a result, capital projects have been curtailed severely. The major project is the \$140,000 ONIP work, scheduled for this year. Repairs to

the arena roof highlight that project, which is funded 50 per cent by the province.

Reeve Fearrey said the other half of the project's costs will come from the sale of municipal property. "We have about 150 parcels of land," he noted.

Taxpayers, as a result, will not finance ONIP through taxation, he said.

Generally, the reeve said he was "quite pleased" by the budget, adding that "every level of gov-

ernment...should practice a little belt-tightening."

Highlights

The breakdown of expenditures this year shows the "stand pat" effect. In 1982, \$353,260 was spent on general government -- and this year \$352,000 has been budgeted.

Protection to persons and property in 1982, was \$83,049 -- and this year's budget calls for \$81,500 to be spent in this area. The roads budget for this year is \$795,000, compared to \$815,054 the year before.

Other comparisons show the same "stand pat" figures:

- Environmental -- \$191,405 (1982 actual); \$160,000 in 1983 budget
- Health shows an increase -- \$143,000 budgeted this year, compared to \$135,035 spent last year

- Recreation and culture -- \$170,701 actual in 1982, \$117,908 this year.

Planning and development is set at \$146,000 this year -- but that figure includes the \$140,000 ONIP program. A total of \$3,918 was spent in that category last year.

Hospital merger faces long delay

The twinning of the Haliburton and Minden Red Cross Hospitals with St. Joseph's in Peterborough has been delayed for at least one year.

Ken Morley, the regional council chairman for the Canadian Red Cross Society, called the delay "an unfortunate circumstance" that will mean the two hospitals won't be transferred "in the foreseeable future."

However, he stressed that the Red Cross will continue to operate both hospitals, adding that there is no question of them being "closed, or effected in any way, by the delay."

According to a letter from Red Cross official J.T. West, a meeting between Society officials and Ministry of Health representatives was held May 10, "for the purpose of discussing the hospital transfers

and the delays which have ensued to date." In all, eight hospitals now run by the Red Cross were slated for transfer, explained Morley.

West cited "the sole problem" as being "the inability of the Ministry to provide the incremental operating funds required by the hospitals assuming this responsibility."

Apparently there were "competing requirements" at the Ministry of Health when representation was made for more funds, states the letter.

"At any rate, the desire on the part of the Red Cross to transfer the eight hospitals continues unabated as is the Ministry's interest in seeing this action taken. Our sole concern is that there will be a delay in the process which could extend for up to 12 months, and thereby well into the next fiscal year," concluded West.

AHM releases 1983 municipal budget

Although it's a little early to say just yet, things look pretty good for Anson, Hindon and Minden ratepayers.

Deputy-reeve Ed Pergolas ("Pursestrings", as he's called by Coun. Gary Kenney) announced last Thursday that the **municipal** portion of AHM's 1983 budget had been held to a 5.2 per cent increase.

The deputy-reeve gave a brief summation of the new budget, which will be formally accepted at an upcoming special meeting of council. The meeting is set for Thursday at 7 p.m.

Expenditures for 1983 are budgeted at \$1,328,953. Last year, expenditures reached the \$1,229,380 level, and Pergolas said the increase is forecast at \$99,573.

He further explained that taxpayers paid \$379,505 in municipal taxes last year, and will be paying \$399,323 this year.

"It's interesting to note...that

taxpayers raise 33.2 per cent of

the municipality's total commitment to

wards sick leave benefits are to be

paid off this year, and a total of

\$139,000 is in the working fund

area information booth.

Reserves good

The deputy-reeve noted that AHM reserves "are in pretty good

shape." A total of 75 per cent of

the municipality's total commitment to

wards sick leave benefits are to be

paid off this year, and a total of

\$139,000 is in the working fund

area information booth.

That money, he said, would be used when and if the municipality wants to raise money for a major project. "If we ever have to build anything which would require de-

btenture, we could borrow from

that reserve as you would apply it to a debenture payment," said Per-

golas.

During a brief question and answer session the deputy-reeve

touted the new computer system.

The municipality will own its own

computer programs, which will

mean a major savings.

It will be used for payroll cal-

culations, and for tax bills, he said.

Please turn to Page 13

Five huge truckloads of new automobiles thundered in Haliburton Friday afternoon, to kick off Curry Motors' 60th anniversary festivities.

Curry Motors kicks off 60th anniversary

When the big trucks rolled into Curry Motors last Friday, with 40 brand-new cars in tow, it marked a unique chapter in the history of the company.

This year Curry Motors is 60 years old - and the local General Motors dealership has come an awful long way from the days when W.R. Curry ran his livery stable.

According to R.J. Curry, a longtime Haliburton resident and former president of Curry's, everything began back in 1913, when his father "purchased a new 1913 Ford car and used it in the livery business."

"Cars had begun to replace horses, but it wasn't until the mid-1930's that automobiles could be used from November to May," he noted. The reason, he said,

course, was the primitive state of those early roads -- they were simply tracks of dirt that weren't snowplowed in the winter "and were not much better than trails in early spring and fall," he said.

In fact, recalled Curry, in those early days it would take about an

hour to drive down to Minden from Haliburton. There were sections of corduroy road -- a road made of timber -- over the various swampy sections of the route. The corduroy sections had to be crossed in low gear, he said.

"In 1921 my father built a livery stable after purchasing it from Stoddard and MacDonald.

R.J. Curry recalls that his father's 1913 Ford was the second car ever owned in the village.

"In 1921 my father built a garage on the present location of

Please turn to Page 12

Trucks roll in

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"In 1921 my father built a garage on the present location of

Please turn to Page 12

Board of education budget tops \$7 million mark in 1983

County taxpayers are going to pay between 11.9 and 13.4 per cent more for the board of education portion of their 1983 tax bill -- and the board's 1983 budget will top 7.6 million.

Figures released last week by the Haliburton County Board of Education show Dysart taxpayers will contribute the largest share of the education levy -- \$1,306,153, an

11.6 increase over the amount paid last year.

Anson, Hindon and Minden ratepayers will foot \$846,599 for county education in 1983, up by 11.9 per cent. The other municipalities are listed in order:

- Stanhope -- \$504,074 (11.5 per cent increase)
- Sherborne et al -- \$393,781 (13.3 per cent increase)

- Lutterworth -- \$318,226 (11.9 per cent increase)

- Glamorgan -- \$269,866 (11.9 per cent increase)

- Cardiff -- \$214,976 (12.4 per cent increase)

- Monmouth -- \$177,451 (13 per cent increase)

- Snowdon -- \$142,993 (12.8 per cent increase)

- Bcroft -- \$69,663 (13.4 per cent increase)

The \$7.6 million budget can be broken down this way -- provincial grants total \$3,212,851, an 8.3 per cent increase from 1982, while the municipalities will pay \$4,243,782, up 12 per cent from last year. A further \$100,043 will be generated through other sources (up 12 per cent) and \$45,451 appears in the "over levy prior years" category.

Deputy-reeve Pergolas reported that one of the biggest projects in store in this year's budget is the installation of computers in the municipal office. The computers will cost about \$16,000. Software costs have not yet been determined, he said.

"We hope they will pay for themselves in three or four years," he said. Where in the past it was

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